

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Little House

AND/OR COMMON

Orrison Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

N/S Peters Road below Thurston Road

6th E D 7

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF Urbana

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Frederick

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Map 105 Parcel 11

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

☒PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Beatrice Dane Hasi Dajani

Telephone #: 301-874-5201

STREET & NUMBER

3551 Tennyson Street

CITY, TOWN

Washington D.C.

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
20015**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Court House

Liber #: 466

Folio #: 433

STREET & NUMBER

North Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

MD

21701

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS F-7-19

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Little House is a one and two and a half story frame over log building which faces south from the north side of Peters Road near Thurston. The main block of the house is three bays wide and one room deep; the one story kitchen addition is two bays wide and one room deep. An open porch extends along the entire length of the south side. Two entrances are located on the south side; an eight panel door with four light transom occupies the second bay, a replaced glass and panel door is located in the fifth bay. The first and third bays on the first level are occupied by 9/6 windows; located in the fourth bay on the first level and first and third bay on the second level are 6/6 windows, all with louvered shutters. An additional entrance on the north side which is now boarded closed may once have been the main entrance. The entire building is constructed on a low random stone foundation; the flank gabled tin roof is finished by a boxed cornice. Two single exterior chimneys flank the gables on the east and west sides.

A modern one story frame addition built in the 1960's is located on the east side of the main residence.

The house is in very good condition and is currently rented to tenants by the owner.

Continued on

Sheet 2 of 2

Continued on

Sheet 3 of 3

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

F-7-22

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Late 18th century

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Little House is an excellent example of a two story log dwelling with many 18th and early 19th century construction and decorative interior features.

The entire house which is one room deep is constructed of exposed oak beams. Much of the original horsehair chinking and wide oak flooring is evident throughout the house. The ceiling is exposed whitewashed beams.

A roughly beaded chairrailing which was added later over the log is located in the center and west rooms on the first floor.

Located in the east room on the first level which served as the kitchen is a large arched and corbeled brick fireplace and chimney with the original wrought iron fireplace swing. Several bricks in this hearth were replaced with similar ones from the ruins of the Zion Episcopal Church which was constructed in 1802.

The exact history of the house is not known but a little search of the land reveals that the land was part of the original "Bloomsbury Tract" owned by Roger Johnson. Subsequently the land was given to James T. Johnson and Charles Johnson in Roger's Will. The land remained in the Johnson family until the mid-nineteenth century when the land was deeded to Zadock Windsor, a local land speculator.

Since the house is located not far from the "Forge Farm" it is believed that the house was used as a tenant or overseer's house for a worker at the Johnson Furnace but this has not yet been documented.

A Johnson family graveyard is located approximately four hundred yards northwest of the house however no gravestones remain. It is possible that it contains the grave of James T. Johnson since a right of way to the graveyard is included in his widow's deed to Zadock Windsor.¹

Also located on the land is a rock which is the quietest site yet discovered in the United States. Seismic readings of underground motion at this site are approximately 100,000 times more sensitive than at any other site. Dr. Ellis T. Bolton, Director of the Carnegie Institution's Department of Terrestrial Magnetism has stated "that this is a natural resource of the first magnitude and its preservation in its present state at least is in the national interest".²

¹ Frederick County Land Records Liber DSB2 Foliò 32.

² Potomac Magazine, July 12, 1970, p. 24.
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington Post, Potomac Magazine, July 12, 1970, p. 24

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cherilyn

ORGANIZATION

Frederick County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



F-4-22



Interior, Little House
North side Peter's Road

F-7-22





Little House
North side, Peter's Road
South view

F-7-22





Little House

F-7-22

North side Peter's Road

Northwest view





Outbuilding, Little House
North side, Peter's Road
South view

F-7-22





Interior, Little Place
North side, Peter's Road

F-7-22





Interior, Little House
North side, Peter's Road

F-7-22





Interior, Littlepouse F-7-22
North side Peter's Road

